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meaning of the passage which he thus loosely quotes better than many modern commentators do. Of course Simplicius may also have been thinking of Sophist 247 E *τίθεται γὰρ ὅρον [ὀρίζειν] τὰ ὄντα ὡς ἔστιν οὐκ ἄλλο τι πλὴν δύναμις*.

PAUL SHOREY

PRORSUS IN GELLIUS

The inadequacy of our lexicons and indexes, except the comparatively few which record every instance of every word, is shown particularly by such words as *prorsus*, which the indexes either leave unmentioned or notice briefly and arbitrarily; unfortunately the same thing is true of many *apparatus critici*. In the preparation of some notes on *prorsus*, published in *T.A.P.A.*, LI, pp. 30 ff., I collected from such sources only five examples in Gellius. A recent reading of the *Noctes Atticae* yielded no less than thirty-seven. In seven cases Gellius is translating from the Greek,¹ but in the one instance where the original is also given *prorsus* has no Greek equivalent (xx. 5. 8, *omnium prorsus* = πάντων). In a very free translation, or rather paraphrase, of Plato *σώφρων τελέως*, *Leges*, 647 d., is rendered by *continentem prorsum*, Gell. xv. 2. 6; in two examples from Herodotus *prorsus* has no equivalent in the Greek. Besides the translations, we have quotations twice from Favorinus (ii. 22. 25 and ii. 26. 23), from a grammarian rejoicing in the name of Domitius Insanus (xviii. 7. 3), from Calvisius Taurus (xii. 5. 7), from Fronto (xix. 8. 11), from an anonymous grammarian "primaie in docendo celebritatis" (vi. 17. 2), and from the verses of a young friend of Gellius who is described as οὐκ ἄμυνσος (xix. 11. 4). Only the last of these is a quotation of the written word, so that the others may represent Gellius' own usage. Favorinus, in ii. 26. 23, furnishes what seems to be a unique example of *prorsus* modifying an adverb in the superlative degree,² which perhaps indicates that Gellius quoted him accurately.

All the various forms of the word seem to occur in Gellius, who has *prosum* once (ix. 4. 6),³ *prorsus* five times: ii. 8. 7 (*prorsus erat*, VPRs; *prosumserat*, A, indicating a variant reading *prosum* and *prorsus*; *erat prorsus*, s); ii. 22. 25 (cod. R); iv. 13. 4 (V: *prorsus*, PR); x. 3. 10 (cod. X); xx. 5. 8 (*prorsus*, QXOH); *prorsum* nine times: Praef. 9; ii. 12. 4; v. 5. 6; v. 9. 3; xi. 5. 7 (*prorsus*, II); xv. 2. 6; xvi. 3. 1 (*prorsus*, Y); xviii. 2. 1 (¶ *sum*, Z; *prorsus*, X); xix. 11. 4 (*prosum*, X pr.; ¶ rl., Maer. P.) the last, as has been said, in a quotation, and *prorsus* twenty-two times.

¹ v. 9. 3 (Hdt. i. 85); xvi. 19. 17 (Hdt. i. 24); v. 14. 15 (Apion *Aegyptiaca*); vii. 1. 2 (Chrysippus, *Περὶ Πιπρωσίας*); ix. 4. 6 (see below); xiii. 4. 2 (a letter of Olympias, mother of Alexander); xx. 5. 8 (a letter of Alexander).

² Quoted below. August. *Solil.* 1. 10, "prorsus mihi unus Ciceronis liber facillime persuasit nullo modo petendas esse divitias," does not seem to be parallel.

³ The reading, a conjecture of Hagen's, is uncertain, but fairly probable; it is accepted both by Hertz and by Hosius; codex δ has "pros (profi) um (petet anti) spectantia." The passage is quoted below.

The original meaning of the word, "forward, straight ahead, onward" (I, 1),¹ appears in ix. 4. 6, "vestigia pedum habentes retro porrecta, non prosum spectantia," and in ii. 30. 4, "undas faciunt (sc. venti a septentrionibus) non prorsus impulsas sed imitus commotus." The figurative use (I, 2) does not seem to occur.

The meaning "straight, straightway" (II, 1) is found in xvi. 19. 17, "tum Arionem prorsus ex eo loco Corinthum petivisse," and the temporal use (II, 2) in v. 9. 3, "adulescens loqui prorsum deinceps incepit."

The intensive use of *prorsus* is always the most common one, and of this Gellius has twenty-six examples. *Prorsus* modifies a verb (III, 1) in x. 3. 10, "ut non narrari quae gesta sunt, sed rem geri prosus videas." With adjectives (III, 2) there are fifteen examples.² No instances occur of the rare comparative (Just. v. 7. 11) or superlative (Juv. 6. 249, Apul. Flor. 16). Modifying an adverb (III, 3) we have xviii. 2. 1, "Saturnalia Athenis agitabamus hilare prorsum ac modeste," ii. 26. 23, "sed cum sit flavus color e viridi et albo mixtus, pulcherrime prorsus virentis maris 'flabom marmor' appellavit," ii. 12. 4, "et res prorsum se sic habent." It will be observed that *prorsus* follows the adverb in the first two examples, as it did the verb in x. 3. 10 and ten out of fifteen of the adjectives; the single exception may be taken differently: see below. To this category of the adverb we may add seven examples in which *prorsus* emphasizes a negative statement, another very common use of the word,³ as in vii. 1. 2, "nihil est prorsus istis insubidius," in every case following the negative word.⁴ Examples of *prorsus ut* are found in ii. 23. 2, "lepide scriptum . . . prorsus ut melius posse fieri nihil censeas"; and xii. 5. 7, "ita prorsus, ut nihil quicquam esset carius."

Intensive *prorsus* may stand either before or after the word which it modifies. Gellius has a decided fondness for the latter position, amounting almost to a rule. It is probably not safe to regard this usage of his as invariable, but it is certainly a striking coincidence that nearly all, if not all, of the exceptions may be explained in a different way, or taken ἀπὸ κοινοῦ. In conclusion we may examine these doubtful cases.

In xiii. 3. 1 the sentence "risu prorsus atque ludo res digna est" is particularly puzzling, since quite exceptionally it stands at the beginning of a chapter (or extract). For this reason and because, perhaps accidentally, *prorsus* is found several times with *dignus*,⁵ one might be inclined to take it with *digna* here; but it seems much more natural to translate it with *risu*,

¹ The figures in parentheses refer to the categories formulated in *T.A.P.A.*, LI.

² v. 14. 15, "ea re prorsus tam mirabili." ix. 11. 2, xiii. 4. 2, xvii. 3. 3, xix. 9. 7—Praef. 9, "multasque prorsum concinnitates redolentia," ii. 8. 7, ii. 22. 25, iv. 13. 4, iv. 15. 1, vi. 17. 2, xi. 5. 7, xv. 2. 6, xix. 11. 4, xx. 5. 8. In the first five examples *prorsus* precedes the adjective, in the last ten it follows it; in the greater number of the former *prorsus* may be taken differently, or ἀπὸ κοινοῦ (see *T.A.P.A.*, LI, 36, footnote).

³ See *T.A.P.A.*, LI, 33.

⁴ The other examples are: i. 11. 1, v. 5. 6, vi. 3. 51, xi. 16. 4, xviii. 7. 3, xix. 8. 11.

⁵ See *T.A.P.A.*, LI, 33, footnote.

or the phrase *risu atque ludo*, in the sense of "indeed." In ix. 11. 2, "*ea res prorsus miranda sic profecto est in libris annalibus memorata*," a connective with the preceding sentence appears to be called for, and hence the meaning "indeed" or "in fact" seems a natural one for *prorsus*; but the word-order suggests that it is also to be taken intensively with *miranda*. In v. 14. 15, "*ea re prorsus tam admirabili maximos populi clamores excitatos dicit*," the sentence begins a paragraph and no connective seems necessary, but the presence of *tam*, which separates *prorsus* from the adjectival word, makes the translation "indeed" or perhaps "straightway," at least possible. We have another instance of the separation of *prorsus* from the word which it might be expected to modify in xiii. 4. 2, a translation of a letter of Olympias, the mother of Alexander the Great, reading as follows: "*malum mihi prorsus illa (sc. Iuno) dabit*." Here *prorsus* may have both the meaning of "indeed" or "straightway" and that of "exceedingly, very." In vi. 11. 4, "*tamquam prorsus ista dedecora hoc convicio in homine notarentur*," we have an example of *prorsus* modifying a pronoun (V, 2), with the sense of "exactly those." In such cases the order is more flexible, and the position of *prorsus* cannot be regarded as contrary to Gellius' usual practice. The position between *tamquam* and *ista* may conceivably be due to a desire to intensify the former word as well, with the meaning "precisely as if." If this be admitted, we may thus dispose of a real exception to Gellius' usage in xix. 9. 7, "*Iulianum adorti sunt tamquam prorsus barbarum et agrestem*," by taking *prorsus* with *tamquam* as well as with the following adjectives. It seems safer, however, to take the last example as a single exception to the regular word-order; neither *tamquam prorsus* nor *prorsus tamquam* occurs elsewhere, although *prorsus quasi* is common in Justinus and occurs in Apuleius. We have two more examples in which *prorsus* may perhaps modify a pronoun: i. 9. 4, "*hi prorsus appellabantur intra tempus tacendi audiendique ἀκουστικοί*," and i. 23. 2, "*ea Catonis verba huic prorsus commentario indidissem, si libri copia fuisset id temporis, cum haec dictavi*." Both of these sentences are somewhat puzzling. The former is followed by other designations of the Pythagoreans at different stages of their education, once with the similar phrase "*hi dicebantur*"; *prorsus*, however, is not used again, and there seems to be no special reason for emphasizing the first *hi*. Apparently then *prorsus* means "indeed," perhaps combined with a stressing of the pronoun. In the second sentence too there seems to be no good reason for emphasizing *huic*, while the temporal *cum*-clause suggests the meaning "straightway, at once"; but I should be somewhat inclined to see both meanings here, as well as in the preceding example. A particularly difficult example is found in xvi. 3. 1, "*quasi ex lingua prorsum eius apti (capti, mss.)*." *Prorsum* seems to mean "actually" and to be taken loosely with the whole sentence.

It is obvious, I think, that *prorsus* always adds something to the meaning of a sentence, and therefore that a study of the uses of the word, and its various significations, is profitable as well as interesting.

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